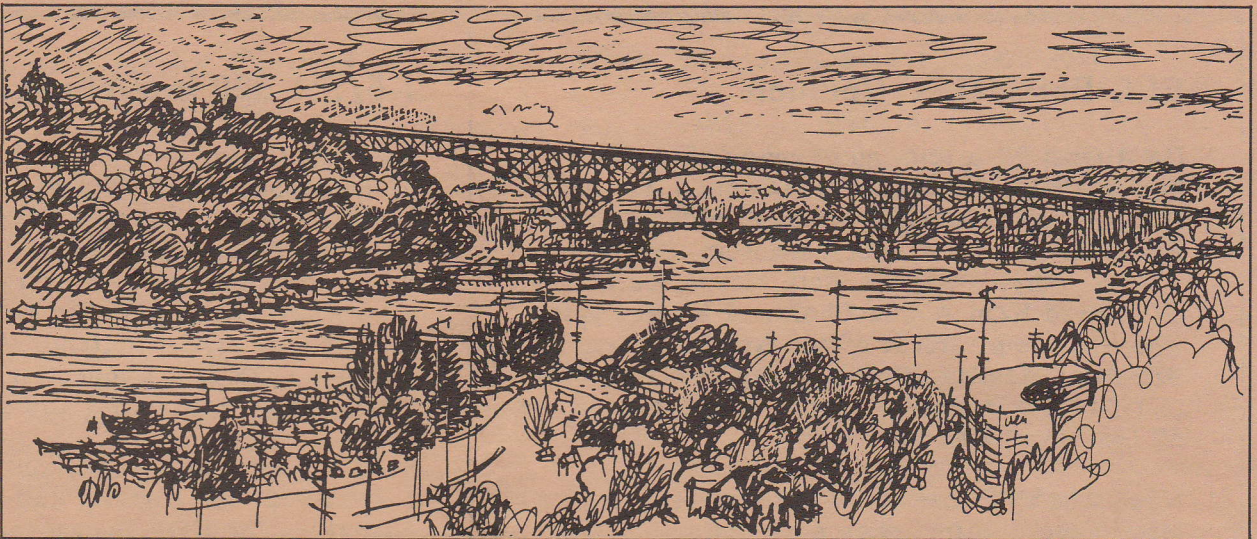


Eastlake  
Community  
Council

58 E. Boston  
Seattle, WA 98102



# **EASTLAKE NEWS**

## **October 18: Annual Program on Eastlake's History**

First a forest, then farmland, Eastlake since the turn of the century has been a vital but precarious balance of homes and businesses. Within its boundaries are some of Seattle's oldest houses and perhaps its widest range of building types. Decisive influences on the Eastlake way of life have included the changing uses of Lake Union, the "great wall" of Interstate 5, and the recent building boom.

Past programs on our neighborhood's history have been well attended. Back by popular demand to lead this year's program are Susan Boyle, an architect who serves on the Landmarks Preservation Board, and Anne Fisher, a former ECC historian who lives in an 1895 Victorian house in Eastlake. Their lively presentation will be illustrated by slides of scenes then and now, including some photographs only recently discovered. Not to be missed! Seward School Library, 7pm. Call 322-5463 for more information.

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## **Community Council Latest**

An interim board is currently initiating and monitoring the activities of the Eastlake Community Council. The board consists of long-standing volunteers and newer residents interested in Eastlake and citywide neighborhood issues.

In the near future, the Council's goals for 1989 will be defined, and elections will be held to determine its officers. The membership will be kept informed of local developments, while residents whose memberships have expired will be notified. For now, the mailing address of the ECC remains 58 E. Boston, 98102.

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## **Inside...**

...you'll find news on the usual cornucopia of issues relating to the Eastlake neighborhood: Seward School, the I-5/520 interchange proposal, the Lake Union District Council, a new Parks and Recreation plan affecting Rogers Playfield, the threat of a Circle K on Eastlake, and a lot more.

Eastlake News is distributed  
free to residents of the  
Eastlake Community and  
members of the Council.

Newsletter Editor:  
Martin Cobb

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**OCTOBER 1988**

## ECC Presidents' Reunion

On August 28, a reunion of many of the past presidents of the Community Council was held. In addition to the most recent presidents Carol Eychaner and Jules James, we were able to welcome Phyllis Boyker, Beth Means, Kathy Shea, Fred Kempe, Ted Choi, and Edith Roesch, who was the president of the North Broadway/Eastlake Community Club from 1942 to 1944. Their picture appeared in the last issue of *The Lake Union Review*.

Numerous ECC members were also in attendance, together with City Councilmember Jim Street and state legislative candidate Cal Anderson. A good time was had by all, in good weather to boot. Many thanks go to Chris Leman for providing his house and much of the organization for the event.

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## Seward School Update

You'll recall the intense campaign waged by the ECC and the Seward School PTSA to prevent the closure and sale of the school earlier this year. Sadly, although the school's buildings will be retained rather than sold, the School Board has voted to close Seward at the end of the 1988/89 school year.

We hear that one immediate result of the decision is the loss of about 100 families from Seward's enrollment compared with last spring.

We remain very concerned about the future of the buildings and will attempt to monitor closely their historic status and the activities and plans of the City. We will certainly be involved in the decisions over the next uses of the buildings following the school's closure. And we hope that, one day soon, the pendulum will again swing Seward's way, and the school will be re-opened.

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## I-5/SR-520 Interchange Proposal

As noted in previous newsletters, the state Dept. of Transportation (DOT) has proposed construction of a northbound High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) bypass on I-5 from the Olive Way on-ramp to the 520 off-ramp, and a reversible ramp connection from 520 to the I-5 express lane. DOT contends this project would improve HOV lane connections and overall traffic flow between I-5 and 520.

Such a project is ill-conceived and, if constructed, will directly and seriously impact Eastlake. The HOV bypass lane would be a ramp elevated about 16 ft. above Boylston. Increases in noise, air and visual pollution can be expected to result from the ramp. DOT has proposed construction of noise barriers along Boylston to mitigate the freeway noise; however, there is no indication that these barriers will actually reduce noise to below existing levels.

The neighborhoods of Montlake, Roanoke Park, Portage Bay and Eastlake have joined together in opposition to the proposal. We have succeeded in eliciting unanimous support from all the Seattle area's state senators and representatives, some of whom (Jesse Wineberry, Janice Niemi, and Cal Anderson) have helped guide our neighborhoods' opposition. The opposition is based on the impacts associated with the ramp and on the fact that the ramp will only dump more cars into the SR-520 bottleneck at the west end of the bridge.

The neighborhoods are requesting information from DOT on the potential impacts of the project. The environmental analysis so far presented reveals little information of substance. We are also interested in exploring options such as a lid covering the interchange, and soundproofing the express lanes. (Such mitigation is viewed as necessary for *existing* impacts, to be explored with or without proposed freeway projects.)

United neighborhood action has been effective in this issue so far, and the project is currently on hold, according to DOT secretary Duane Berentson. Further ECC work will be important for this issue; for more information, contact ECC Transportation co-chairs Chris Leman (322-5463) or Chris Zenner (323-4484).

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## The Lake Union District Council

Each resident of Seattle's neighborhoods is affected in some way by traffic and parking problems, buildings of inappropriate scale blocking sunlight and views, disruption of pedestrian by-ways to services and public transportation, and inadequate open space for recreation and visual relief. The need for comprehensive land-use planning on a neighborhood basis provided the impetus for the current citizens' movement to establish a more equal partnership between Seattle's neighborhoods and City administrators.

The resulting Office of Neighborhoods, created during the 1987 City Budget process, is now in operation. District Council boundaries have been defined, and a citywide Neighborhood Council is meeting on a regular basis. Eastlake joins the Floating Homes Association, Fremont, Wallingford, Cascade, and Westlake in forming the Lake Union District Council (LUDC).

To provide a self-help matching fund for the neighborhoods, the City budgeted \$150K for 1988; \$1.5 million is projected for 1989. Each of the councils is working to establish its goals and priorities from long lists of environmental and social service needs.

A Comprehensive Neighborhood Planning proposal is high on the agenda of the LUDC and was a featured topic at its recent meeting in Fremont. A subcommittee comprising Carol Eychaner and Linda Phillips (from Eastlake and the FHA), Jenny Eichauld, Carla Main, Roger Pence, and Wally Trace provided a preliminary planning concept.

The proposed process would occur in several phases. First, the neighborhoods' and District's needs and concerns would be identified. The neighborhood plan would then be shaped by the needs and concerns raised, and issues would be addressed on both a neighborhood and a District level. The plan would emphasize the role of neighborhoods in responsible planning, and rely on a neighborhoods/City cooperation effort.

The projected result is a neighborhood-generated plan, adopted as law, that will address zoning, transportation and parking, social services, and other environmental and urban concerns affecting the communities bordering Lake Union. Assuming approval by the district council, the LUDC will be the first district council to present a neighborhood-planning proposal to the City. For more information on the LUDC, call Carla Main at the Fremont Community Service Center, 684-4054.

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## Plan for Parks and Recreation

A comprehensive planning effort to determine the future of Seattle's park and recreation system for the next 20 years will be conducted by the City Parks and Recreation Dept. over the next 12-18 months.

Eastlake's Rogers Playfield deserves special attention from park planners and residents because of its increased importance as a center of community activity. The uncertain future of Seward School, a community gathering-place and anchor of community spirit, makes evaluation and enhancement of Rogers Playfield and surrounding areas, such as the Franklin Ave. right-of-way, vital to our neighborhood.

To insure adequate citizen participation in the planning process, presentations by the Department are available for each city neighborhood, in addition to proposed coordination with the broader District Council areas. For more information, contact the Department at 684-4075.

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## Jim Knight, 1934-1988

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Jim Knight on August 24, at the age of 53.

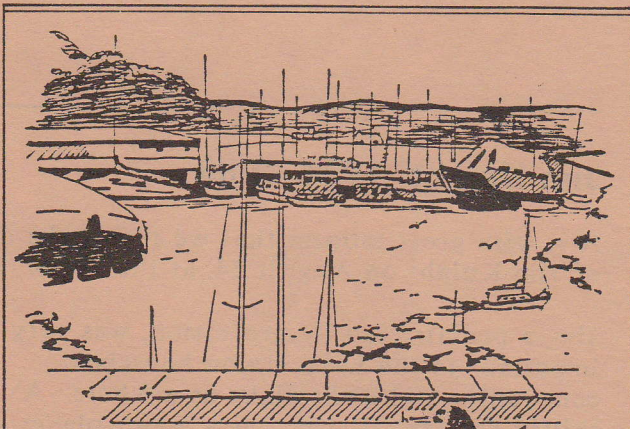
Jim, a pediatrician by profession, was very important to the Lake Union houseboat community and to Eastlake as a whole. A skilled fundraiser, Jim was a major player in the establishment of the Log Foundation, a cooperative that purchased three houseboat docks on Lake Union in the early 1980s, thus saving the docks from untold fates. A tireless worker who believed strongly in the spirit of community, Jim was appreciated and loved throughout our neighborhood and an inspiration to all who knew him. Our deepest sympathies go to Linda and everyone in Jim's family.

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## Newsletter Notes

The *Eastlake News* is currently being produced on an irregular basis, instead of monthly as before. Many thanks for their contributions to the October newsletter go to Mark Blatter, Carol Eychaner, Chris Leman, Linda Phillips, Lynn Poser, and Chris Zenner.

Frank and Banu Symington, our most recent coordinators of newsletter distribution, have bought a house in Magnolia. Despite our best efforts to convince them otherwise, Frank and Banu have decided that since they bought a house, they might as well live in it. We will miss them. Now we need another volunteer to be distribution coordinator -- it requires 3 or 4 hours every few months. Please help!



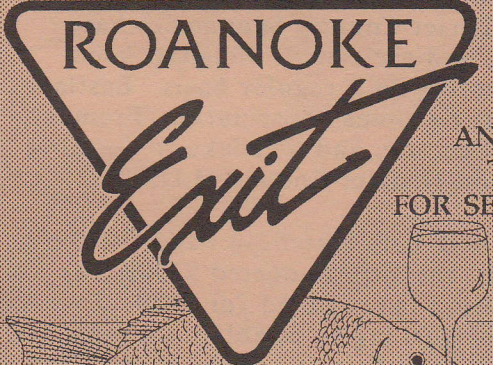
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## Land Use Project Updates

**2048 Fairview** (Master Use Permit 8505493). After over two years and much hard work this project was finally settled in June. The the ECC and Floating Homes Association accepted a smaller two-building concept, more on-site parking, significant design modifications, and reimbursement of some professional services. Although the result was not an ideal solution, the ECC and FHA felt that they gained important concessions, and established a working relationship with Shelter Ventures which should enable future concerns to be constructively addressed. Nearby affected residents and businesses can obtain copies of the settlement by writing to the ECC.

**2228 Eastlake** (MUP 8705730). ECC members have twice reviewed plans and recommended improvements for this retail/residential project adjacent to the new strip center at the corner of Eastlake and Lynn. The proposed project will have 16 apartments over retail space, separated by covered parking for 27 cars on the second level. Parking will be entered from the alley. Improvements resulting from the ECC's review include street-front retail rather than surface parking on Eastlake, two smaller structures instead of one large one, screened parking, and a more suitable roofline.

**2501 Eastlake** (MUP 8802636). The developer of this retail/residential project previously approved (MUPs 8600380 and 8605592) is seeking to rezone the rear portion of the lot -- the condo site -- from Lowrise-2 to Neighborhood/Commercial-2, 40-ft. height, to allow interim surface parking for the retail building. The ECC will seek to condition approval on limiting development on the site to the height, bulk, scale and use established by the residential MUP.

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## Membership Application

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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 Business (\$40)

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Mail to: ECC Membership  
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Seattle, WA 98102

## Neighborhood Notes

**Houseboat tour.** On September 18 the usually placid atmosphere of the Lake Union houseboat docks was enlivened by about 1000 visitors enjoying the annual Floating Homes Tour. The shuttle bus ride between Eastlake and Westlake docks provided opportunities for tourgoers to ask about houseboating and share anecdotes with Bill Keasler, Floating Homes Association president. Overheard on the docks during the tours: "I love the cats and flowers." "How do they get water and where does the sewage go?" "Does that boat say 'Police'?" "Does this conform to code?" and "Just look at this view."

**Fewer smokers.** You might have noticed a couple of the smokestacks missing at the Lake Union Steam Plant. Apparently they're simply being repaired. When the work is done the stacks will be shorter in height than previously constructed, something intended for all the stacks. Meanwhile, there's a rumor going around that some people are trying to remove the historical landmark designation for the Steam Plant that was granted last year. The battle, it seems, may not be over.

**Latest Turtle.** Good news: The Hungry Turtle has opened its doors again. It's open for lunch and dinner Mon.-Sat.

**Did you know?** That the stretch of I-5 freeway along Boylston at the SR-520 interchange has the highest traffic volumes of any stretch of freeway in the state.

**Local interest.** A *Seattle Times* article on Oct. 8 featured a local houseboater and ECC member: Robert Fulghum, a true "Renaissance man" and author of "All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten."

**Congratulations** to *The Lake Union Review* on its first anniversary.

**Inspect your trash.** Go ahead, try it. Do you see a toilet paper roll? How about a crumpled cash machine receipt? These and many other household items can be recycled through our City's Curbside Recycling program. Besides the usual newspapers, cans and bottles, you can and should also toss in tin can lids and labels removed from cans, egg cartons, cereal boxes, wrapping paper, tissue paper, Sunday ad supplements, coupons, "Postit" sticky notes, deposit slips, envelopes with windows (though it is preferred the windows be removed), some ice cream cartons, light bulb packaging... the list

goes on and on. Call Barbara at Recycle Seattle (382-0888) with questions about other items.

## A Circle K on Eastlake?

A liquor license application by the Circle K Corp. has been approved for the retail space at the corner of Eastlake and E. Lynn. This approval apparently cannot be appealed, but the ECC is sending a letter to the state Liquor Control Board (LCB) stating objections to the application process and protesting the fact that signatures on petitions opposing the store were discredited without foundation and not taken into consideration.

The ECC feels this area's alcohol needs are adequately served by the existing small grocery stores and that a 24-hour retail store would not be neighborhood-serving. More significantly, our community overwhelmingly opposed the issue of a liquor license for a 7-11 proposed for the same site in 1987. Then, the LCB agreed and denied the permit. For the building owner and the LCB to ignore this previous opposition and denial of permit, and to assume that our opposition to a Circle K is any less than to a 7-11, is an extreme disservice to the public and evidence of arbitrary decision-making.

## BIBLIOTS & BOOKS

*Rare and Used  
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